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17. ABSTRACT (MAX. 250 WORDS)

Presents criteria used for provisional admission to teacher education program and to professional semester and/or student teaching. Reports procedures followed by students seeking admission and by committees on professional fitness and college admissions at Northwestern State College.

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IV-2

A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM OF GUIDANCE, SELECTION, AND ADMISSION IN THE TEACHER-EDUCATION PROGRAM AT NORTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE

Provisional Admission

1. Each teacher candidate enrolls in the Introduction to Education (Ed. 202) course during one of the semesters of the sophomore year. (In the case of Junior College and other transfer students of at least sophomore status, this occurs during their first semester on campus.) Here the candidate studies the characteristics of a profession, the nature of the work of the teacher, the qualities and competencies required in order to be an effective teacher, completes the required test battery, receives an interpretation of the results, and decides whether teaching holds promise of providing lifetime satisfaction and fulfillment for him.
   a. Those students who wish to be considered for provisional admission complete the required form for admission into the Teacher Education program. (The candidate must have completed a minimum of 30 semester hours of work before he is eligible to apply for provisional admission.)
2. When the candidate has completed the appropriate test battery and has met the other required standards (See Appendix A for criteria), his application will be appraised by the Committee on Professional Fitness, composed of one representative each from the elementary, secondary, and psychology sections of the Education and Psychology Department, and one from each of three other departments. The representatives from departments other than Education and Psychology shall be selected for staggered 3-year terms with none of these representatives succeeding himself on this committee. On the first committee, one representative shall have a term of one year, one shall have a term of two years, and one, three years. No faculty member shall serve concurrently on the College Admissions Committee and the Committee on Professional Fitness. Candidates are either provisionally approved, deferred, or disapproved.

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a. Candidates who have been provisionally approved are notified of their clearance for continuance in the program.

b. Candidates who have been deferred are notified of the specific remedial work they must satisfactorily complete before being approved for entrance into the program. Such people are referred to the agency or department which provides these services.

c. Candidates who have been disapproved are urged to consult with the Dean of Students for assistance in replanning their education program.

(1) They may, upon petition to the College Admissions Committee, appeal the decision of the Committee on Professional Fitness.

(2) The College Admissions Committee considers the appeal and makes the final decision regarding the candidate's admission into the program. The student's advisor will be requested to be present at this time.

Admission to the Professional Semester and/or Student Teaching

1. Each teaching candidate makes application with the Director of Student Teaching at least six weeks prior to the time scheduled to enter the professional "block" semester and/or to do his student teaching.

a. An evaluation of the secondary candidate's fitness to enter this phase of the training program is secured from the department(s) in which the candidate has completed most or all of the work required in his teaching field(s). (The candidate must have completed or be enrolled in a total of 16 hours of work, of which 2 courses are senior college level, in any area which he designates as a teaching field. A student who has fewer than 16 hours of work in an area in which he wishes to do student teaching may apply for such admission provided that he has a B average in that field.)

b. An evaluation of the elementary candidate's fitness to enter this phase of the training program is secured from the candidate's advisor and from 3 departments in which the candidate has completed the work required in his teaching field. The selection of these departments will be co-operatively determined by the candidate and his advisor.

c. Candidates who secure departmental approval, who have passed the English Proficiency Test, and who meet the required grade-point averages of 2.0 in all courses and 2.5 in courses in each teaching field are approved for entrance into the professional semester and/or student teaching phase of the program.

d. Candidates who do not receive the unqualified support of their subject-matter departments are reviewed by the Committee on Professional Fitness together with representatives from the department(s) involved. This committee attempts to answer such questions as the following: Would the candidate find teaching a rewarding experience? Would it be in the interests of the children of Oklahoma to permit the person in question to become a teacher? Is it likely that the student would be able to perform staisfactorily the various tasks required of a teacher? Would we want this individual to teach our children? Would the candidate be a credit to the teaching profession and to Northwestern State College? A decision is then reached as to whether the candidate will or will not continue in the program.

e. Here, again, the candidate who has not been approved may appeal by petition to the College Admissions Committee at which time a final decision is reached.

2. After admission to the professional semester and/or student teaching, the candidate is given specific student-teaching assignments by the college supervisor in the department of education and psychology. At the secondary

level, each assignment for a candidate is to be approved by the college department corresponding to the field in which the student teaching is to be done. (In order for a student teacher to be assigned to teach in a field, he must have completed at least 16 hours in the field, of which at least 2 courses are at the senior college level. A student with fewer than the required number of hours may be approved for student teaching by the department concerned provided that student has at least a B average in the field.)

3. Candidates are expected to make satisfactory progress during the professional and student-teaching phase of their program. In those instances in which the cooperating teacher and college supervisor determine that the student is not meeting minimum standards of progress, and, after he has had adequate notification and opportunity to meet these standards, a committee composed of the cooperating teacher, college supervisor, the candidate's major professor or representative from the department, a representative from the department of his second teaching field, if any, the Director of Student Teaching, and the Dean of Instruction determine under what conditions the candidate shall be allowed to complete this part of his program or if he will be removed from further participation.

CRITERIA USED FOR ADMISSION TO THE NORTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

I. APTITUDE AND ACHIEVEMENT PATTERNS

1. General learning ability
2. Specific aptitudes
3. English examination
4. Rank in high school graduating class

II. SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Personality
2. Faculty evaluation
3. Interest inventories

III. PRE-PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

1. Grade-point average
2. Teacher attitude test
3. Faculty evaluation

IV. PHYSICAL QUALIFICATIONS

1. Physical examination
2. Auditory acuity test
3. Sight test
4. Speech test